

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 7-9. These sheets, which include Figs. 1 and 7-9, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1 and 7-9.

Attachment: 4 Replacement Sheets

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 24, 25, and 33-37 are pending in this case. Claims 24 and 25 are amended, Claims 33-37 are added, and Claim 26 and non-elected Claims 1-23 and 27-32 are canceled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Specification was objected to with regard to the Abstract; the drawings were objected to; Claims 24-26 and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101<sup>1</sup>; Claims 24-26 were objected to because of informalities<sup>2</sup>; and Claims 24-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Jain, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,893,095, herein "Jain").

The Abstract is amended to conform with the guidelines presented in the outstanding Office Action. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Specification be withdrawn.

Based on a telephone discussion with the Examiner to clarify the objection to Figures 1 and 7-9, Figures 1 and 7-9 are amended. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claims 24 and 25 are amended and Claim 26 is canceled. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to Claim 26 is moot and the objection to Claims 24 and 25 is overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claims 24 and 25 be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 26 is moot and the rejection of Claims 24 and 25 is overcome.

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<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of Claims 29-32 in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is believed to be erroneous in light of the statement, on page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, that Claims 29-32 were withdrawn from consideration.

<sup>2</sup> Item 5 of the outstanding Office Action, at page 5, only lists Claims 24 and 26 in the objection, but Claim 25 is also discussed with regard to objected claims.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

Turning now to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claims 24 and 25 and new Claims 33-37 patentably define over Jain.

Amended Claim 24 is directed to a graphical user interface and includes:

- a graphical display configured to display images representing user-selected query information that forms a search query and to display results of a search of a set of information items based on the search query;
- an input device configured to enable a user to populate a plurality of fields and to describe a search relationship among the user-selected query information represented by the plurality of fields, each field being populated by user selection of an image representative of a different information item, each information item specifying a characterizing information feature as the user-selected query information of the field; and
- a search processor configured to search the set of information items differently based on the characterizing information feature selected as the query information for a field, wherein
  - the set of information items is used to form a set of feature vectors, and the set of information items includes data representative of one or more video images, and/or data representative of audio signals.

Jain describes content-based retrieval of images. As depicted at Fig. 3 of Jain, a user can input keywords, dates, file names, and other information related to images and image files to specify a query, which is represented by an iconic image 202. However, Jain does not teach or suggest “an input device configured to enable a user to populate a plurality of fields” with images representative of information items that include “data representative of one or more video images, and/or data representative of audio signals,” and “user selection of an image representative of a different information item, each information item specifying a characterizing information feature as the user-selected query information of the field” as recited in amended Claim 24.

Amended Claim 24 recites user selection of a plurality of **images representative of information items** that **specify** different characterizing information features corresponding to data representative of video images and/or data representative of **audio signals**. Jain does not teach or suggest either the selection of a plurality of images representative of information items or information items that can specify data representative of audio signals. As depicted at Figures 2 and 3 of Jain, an iconic image 182, 202 is created from the contents of the Query Canvas 108 and submitted as a query. However, in Jain, a plurality of images is not submitted as user-selected query information, as defined by amended Claim 24. Further, while Jain describes, at column 13, lines 47-51, that the Visual Information retrieval Engine can be extended for use with multiple media, such as audio, video, and multi-dimensional information, Jain does not teach or suggest user input of images representative of information items to specify data representative of audio signals, as defined by amended Claim 24.

Because Jain does not teach or suggest at least the above-discussed features of amended Claim 24, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) of Claim 24 and Claim 25, which depends therefrom, be withdrawn.

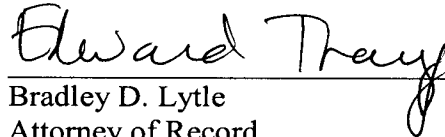
New Claim 33, though differing in scope and statutory class from Claim 24, patentably defines over Jain for substantially the same reasons as Claim 24.

New Claims 34-37 depend from Claim 24 and, therefore, are respectfully submitted as patentably defining over Jain for the same reasons as Claim 24.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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